

Annual Report

OF THE

Whitley and Monkseaton

Urban Council District,

FOR THE YEAR 1895.

PETER ALEXANDER,
Medical Officer of Health,
Whitley.

NORTH SHIELDS:

PRINTED BY T. TODD, CAMDEN STREET.

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REPORT

OF

DR. PETER ALEXANDER,

Medical Officer of Health.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE WHITLEY AND MONKSEATON
URBAN COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have to report continued progress in the number of dwelling houses newly erected, and occupied, and in consequence, a decided increase of population from the large number of householders who have become permanent residents in the District during the year 1895.

Fifty-four new dwelling houses have been occupied, and fifty-five were in course of erection at the end of the year. The great yearly increase of house accommodation is an evidence of the popularity of the District as a pleasant, clean, and healthy resort for the invalid and convalescent, with its pure and invigorating sea breezes ; and as a residential part for business men, engaged during the day in the City. The total number of houses inhabited at the end of the year was 919.

POPULATION.—At the last Census in 1891, it was 3008. The estimated population to the middle of the year 1895, was 4135.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.—The total number of Deaths from all causes within the year was 59, equivalent to a *death rate* of 19·6 per thousand of population, Census 1891, and 14·2 per 1000 of estimated population. The rate per 1000 is still further reduced by deduction of deaths of persons only temporarily resident, in lodgings or institutions of the District, to 12·8 per 1000.

INFANT MORTALITY.—Of children under one year old 11 died ; equivalent to 123·59 per 1000 of Births registered during the year, and 2·66 per 1000 of the total number of deaths registered, from all causes, and at all ages. The chief causes of mortality were premature birth, diarrhœa, bronchitis, debility, and one fatal case of diphtheria.

THE ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE was 0.725 per 1000, showing a very satisfactory sanitary condition of the district.

There were no deaths during the year in the Northumberland Village Homes for girls, and only one death in the Prudhoe Memorial Convalescent Home.

THE DEATHS FROM GENERAL DISEASES were distributed as follows:—Acute Diseases of the Respiratory Organs, four deaths; Consumption, five; Heart Disease, four; Liver Disease, three; Brain and Nervous Diseases, five; Cancer, five deaths (2 rectum, 1 the breast, and 2 the stomach); Diarrhœa and Gastro-enteritis, six deaths (1 in July, child aged 2 years; 1 in August, child aged 6 months; and 4 in September, 2 adults and 2 children); Old Age, 5 deaths, of the average age of 84 years.

Fourteen deaths were of persons *above 65 years of age*, or 23·7 per cent. of the total number of deaths for the year.

INQUESTS.—There were three held during the year. One on a young man found dead on the railway, run over by a passenger train; and two in cases of drowning in the sea—one accidental, whilst bathing, being carried away by the strong current running at the place he entered to bathe; and one suicidal, of a young woman from Newcastle, in a state of despondency.

BIRTH RATE.—Eighty-nine births were registered during the year—a considerable increase on former years, and equivalent to a birth rate of 29·5 per 1000 population (Census 1891), and 21·5 per 1000 of estimated population.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES *within the District during the year*.—Sixty-one were received, of the following diseases: Enteric Fever, one case; Diphtheria, one case; Erysipelas, three cases; and Scarlet Fever, fifty-six cases.

Remarks on the Infectious Diseases:—

Enteric Fever.—One case occurred in January, that of a young child in Albany Terrace, whose brother was ill in December, 1894. No specific cause could be found in water and milk supply, or in defective drainage of dwelling house.

Diphtheria.—One fatal case, that of a child aged 9 months, and who had recently come into the district, from Cullercoats, where another child of the same family had been ill of the same disease, a few months previously. There were no insanitary conditions in their present residence in Algernon Place, to account for the attack.

Erysipelas.—Three cases were notified, mostly mild and local. Exposure to cold and damp atmosphere, with high winds. One case followed Influenza, and assumed a phlegmonous form.

Scarlet Fever.—Fifty-six cases were notified, occurring in 34 different families, with two deaths—one malignant, and one complicated, with Bronchitis as a sequel. The general character of the Fever was of a mild type, and occurring sporadically in different portions of the district; and spread over the whole year, apparently by fresh importations from without the District, it being prevalent in the surrounding towns and villages.

The cases were notified in the following months, numbers, and localities through the course of the year:—

January—	9 cases ;	6 in Monkseaton, and 3 in Whitley,	
February—	4 „ ; 1 „	„	3 „
March—	11 „ ; 5 „	„	6 „
April—	3 „ ; 1 „	„	2 „
May—	1 case ; 1 „	„	0 „
June—	5 cases ; 1 „	„	4 „
July—	4 „ ; 3 „	„	1 „
August—	1 case ; 0 „	„	1 „
			(Imported from Newcastle.)
September—	1 „ ; 0 „	„	1 „
			(Imported from Gosforth.)
October—	7 cases ; 1 „	„	6 „
November—	3 „ ; 0 „	„	3 „
December—	7 „ ; 0 „	„	7 „

or, 19 cases in Monkseaton, and one death from malignant form ; and 37 cases in Whitley, and one death from complication of bronchitis, in a very delicate boy, who developed symptoms of the fever on the second day of his arrival in the district, from Gosforth district.

The infected dwellings were all visited by the Inspector of Nuisances, who made enquiries, supplied disinfectants, and disinfected the houses on convalescence.

No cases of Scarlet Fever occurred amongst lodgers in houses where cases of the fever had existed, before being let to Summer visitors. The efforts made to isolate and limit the disease were most effectually carried out by the parents, who were equally anxious to eradicate it, because many depended on the sum received from Summer visitors, to pay house rent and taxes.

Diarrhœa was very prevalent in July, August, and September, especially among children artificially reared on the “ bottle.”

SCAVENGING.—The Contractor for the removal of ashes and refuse performed his work, on the whole, very satisfactorily. The tubs were well cleaned out, and disinfected regularly three times a week. The ashpits, where in existence, were well cleaned out and disinfected. He should be compelled to carry out his instructions to destroy by fire all waste paper and other materials likely to be carried back into the streets and roads by the high winds so prevalent on this coast, and thus become an offensive nuisance. The depôts for depositing the refuse, ashes, and excrement, should also be at a considerable distance from the public highway and dwelling houses.

THE STREETS, roads, and back lanes have been well swept, and kept tidy ; also watered in dry weather.

THE SEWERS have been flushed with a good supply of water, either from the flushing tanks, or by water cart where they are not connected with the flushing system from the Hillheads.

THE WATER SUPPLY during the year was well maintained as to quantity, but in quality it was at different periods very hard, in all probability when the North Shields Water Company drew the supply from their own gathering grounds and sources, without admixture with the supply of water provided by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and which is of a much softer nature, and better adapted for domestic use, in washing and bathing.

There has been considerable improvement in the *lighting* and *paving* of the streets.

The question of a *public slaughter house* will have to be considered in the near future by the Urban Council. The private slaughter houses, however cleanly kept, are a nuisance to surrounding householders, and persons of a sensitive nature.

THE COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES were inspected, and found clean and wholesome in most cases. In one farm the byre was ordered to be either rebuilt or repaired sufficiently for the health of the cows. The roof and floors were in a dilapidated condition.

The district has been systematically inspected by the Inspector of Nuisances and myself, twice during the year, and numerous inspections made in infectious cases, and where local insanitary conditions existed.

The district is now provided with a Surveyor and an Inspector of Nuisances, with a division of duties for each official.

Every effort should be made to raise the District in the public estimation, as a health resort and watering place, by faithfully and efficiently carrying out all the requirements of the Public Health Act.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently.

P. ALEXANDER,

Whitley,

Medical Officer of Health,

10th February, 1896.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1895, in the Whitley and Monkseaton Urban District, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.								MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																					
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up-wards.		1	2	3	4	FEVERS.					10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
													Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal													
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.						Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Total.	
Whitley and Monkseaton	59	11	4	5	2	23	14	Under 5			1											4			2				8	15
								5 upwds.		2												2		5	3	4	3	25		44
								Under 5																						
								5 upwds.																						
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								5 upwds.																						
Totals	59	11	4	5	2	23	14	Under 5			1											4			2				8	15
								5 upwds.		2												2		5	3	4	3	25		44

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.	6		1	1		4	Under 5																	1						1
							5 upwds.																	1			2	1		5

knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1895, in the Whitley and Monkseaton Urban District, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.												
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1895.			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					Smallpox.	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup.	Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas		
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)													
Whitley and Monkseaton.	3008	4135	89	Under 5 5 upwds.		24 32	1				1					3	
Northumberland Village Homes for Girls				Under 5 5 upwds.													
Prudhoe Memorial Convalescent Home				Under 5 5 upwds.													
				Under 5 5 upwds.													
				Under 5 5 upwds.													
				Under 5 5 upwds,													
				Under 5 5 upwds.													
Totals	3008	4135	89	Under 5 5 upwds.		24 32	1				1					3	

Copy of Old Valuation of Whitley Township.

A List of Rentals upon a Valluation taken at this time in the Township of Whitley, Parish of Tynemouth, and County of North'd. Mines vallued by Mr. Matts. Dunn, of the Leazes, near N'castle, and Land, Houses, Gardens, &c., by Mr. Wm. Tate, of Harton.

[illegible]

Names.	Full Valuation.			Two-thirds.			One Half.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Forward £									
Mr. Jos. Fenwick,House & Garden	4	10	„	3	„	„	2	5	„
Mr. John Armstrong,.....House	6	„	„	4	„	„	3	„	„
Mr. Jas. Weatherheed,.....House & Groc ^r . Shop	10	10	„	7	„	„	5	5	„
Mr. Hen. Dunn,Land	1	17	„	1	4	8	„	18	6
Fred Chapman, Esqr.,House & Gars.	40	„	„	26	13	4	20	„	„
Mr. Thos. Ramsey,House & Butch ^r . Shop	8	„	„	5	6	8	4	„	„
Mrs. Sa ^r . Heckels,Publick House	18	„	„	12	„	„	9	„	„
Do.Tenants' Houses	20	„	„	13	6	8	10	„	„
The Executors of the late Mrs. Jane Bates,.....									
Tenants' Houses	16	„	„	10	13	4	8	„	„
Mr. Robt. Armstrong,...House and Grocer Shop	9	„	„	6	„	„	4	10	„
Mr. Geo. Huntley,House	6	„	„	4	„	„	3	„	„
Mr. Robson,.....Do.	3	„	„	2	„	„	1	10	„
Mrs. Alice Stratford,House & Gar ⁿ .	14	„	„	9	6	8	7	„	„
The Owners of Backworth Colliery ...Waggon way	105	„	„	70	„	„	52	10	„
The Owners of Cramlington Colliery ...Waggon way	35	„	„	23	6	8	17	10	„
The Owners of Seghill Colliery.....Waggon way	35	„	„	23	6	8	17	10	„
Mr. Edwd. Cuthbert,Cottage Houses	6	„	„	4	„	„	3	„	„
Mr. Robt. Taylor,House	7	„	„	4	13	4	3	10	„
Mr. Wm. Foster, E. Smith, Ten.....Do.	3	„	„	2	„	„	1	10	„
Total...£	2848	8	„	1898	18	8	1424	4	„

VALUATION, June 10th, 1825.				VALUATION, July 29th, 1830.			
—:—	£	s.	d.	—:—	£	s.	d.
Land, Houses, Gardens, &c.	2068	„	„	Land, Houses, Gardens, &c.	2143	8	„
Property not occupied ...	73	„	„	Collery ...	230	„	„
Collery ...	600	„	„	Lime Works ...	300	„	„
Iron Stone Works ...	100	„	„	Waggon ways ...	175	„	„
					2848	8	„
					2841	„	„
	£2841	„	„		Differ ^c .	£7	8 „



